

Colombia's Third Biennial Update Report (BUR-3)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10491

Countries

Colombia

Project Name

Colombia's Third Biennial Update Report (BUR-3)

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

2/11/2020

Review completed by PM

4/7/2020

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO) ☐

Part 1: Project Information

Focal area elements

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes, the enabling activity is aligned with the climate change focal area strategy.

Agency Response

Project description summary

Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: The project structure is appropriate. Please add the target date of submission in the description on Component 4 in Table B and in the description of the component below.

4/7/2020: Target submission date of December 2020 has been added. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

3/31/2020 (Reference: PIF pages 4, 9, 10, 20 and 21)

The target date of submission to the UNFCCC added in the description of Component 4 in Table B and in the description of the component in narrative parts of the proposal.

Co-financing

Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified [and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?]

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: There is no co-financing requirement for this enabling activity, through \$133,928 in-kind from the government is listed. We note there is no co-financing in the PMC, which is usually shared by the executing agency and GEF resources. Please clarify.

4/7/2020: Co-financing has been allocated to PMC. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

3/31/2020 (Reference: PIF page 4)

The executing agency will support the project management cost through the use of equipment and premises for conferences and meetings and sharing administrative cost. The allocation of co-financing has been revised accordingly.

The co-financing has been reallocated to the PMC accordingly

GEF Resource Availability

Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes, the proposed GEF financing in Table D is in line with GEF policies and guidelines.

Agency Response

**Are they within the resources available from:
The STAR allocation?**

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: N/A

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes, the resources are available from the climate change set-aside.

Agency Response

Is the financing presented adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Part 2: Enabling Activity Justification

Background and Context.

Are the achievements of previously implemented enabling activities cited since the country(ies) became a party to the Convention?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Please revise to include the latest capacity-building needs identified in the second ICA cycle, and which specifically these project will aim to address (and which will be addressed by other sources of support including for example the CBIT project).

4/7/2020: ICA conclusions have been added. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

3/31/2020 (Reference: text entered in the Part II, chapter A: Enabling Activity Background and Context)

This project will build on findings and recommendations from previous NC and BUR work as well as recommendations resulting from the latest ICA process for Second BUR: The TTE identified the following capacity-building needs related to the facilitation of the preparation of the subsequent BURs and participation in ICA:: (a)Improving the QA/QC process by reviewing the notation keys used in the GHG inventory; by ensuring the correct transcription and consistent use of notation keys in the summary tables; and by providing transparent information on the use of notation keys in the BUR; (b)Accessing financial resources to implement the improvement plans related to the systematic collection and compilation of country-specific AD and EFs, which will enable the tier 2 methodology to be used for key categories (e.g. oil and natural gas (1.B.2) and industrial wastewater treatment and discharge (4.D.2)); (c)Refining the estimation of emissions using the reference approach and strengthening of the AD collection process for national statistics at the appropriate level of disaggregation for the reference approach in order to better explain the differences in the results obtained between the reference and the sectoral approach; (d) Supporting the improvement plan for the estimation of PFC emissions by facilitating the exchange of experience with other countries regarding the tools for collecting information on the consumption and use of PFCs (e.g. information on consumers, products and quantity consumed) and the entities responsible for collecting and disseminating information; (e)Strengthening the MRV team to enable it to produce – using consistent methodologies and existing information – an analysis of forest degradation and a complete land use and land-use change matrix for the six IPCC land-use categories; (f) Improving the EFs for forest land and for conversion of forest land to non-forest land-use categories through the national forest inventory; (g)Improving the uncertainty estimates by implementing a capacity-building programme for the entities providing AD in order to enable them to provide the uncertainty ranges associated with AD so as to avoid the need for expert consultation; by implementing a programme to estimate EFs together with their uncertainty ranges; and by optimizing the uncertainty estimation processes for the two methods currently used by Colombia through designing and implementing an information technology platform for managing and calculating the national GHG inventory; (h) Strengthening the capacity to collect information on technology and capacity-building needs at the subnational level in a standardized manner; (i) Strengthening the capacity of national entities and the MRV system to identify and report the technology needs for implementing the territorial and sectoral climate change management plans, including identifying the criteria for categorizing and differentiating the financial, technical and technology needs in a standardized manner.

Based on the results of the needs identified in the second ICA cycle, as stated above, the Colombian's BUR-3 will continue the work related to the update of National GHG inventory improvement plans. Through CBIT project, it will be supporting the design and implementation of an information technology platform for managing and calculating the national GHG inventory. Likewise, for the first time, the country will be able to report Tier 2 and Tier 3 emissions estimates for prioritized categories in the Energy Sector to the UNFCCC. In general, through both projects and their synergies, Colombia will strengthen the capacity of national entities to consolidate and manage the information needed for the calculation of the GHG inventory.

Goals, Objectives, and Activities.

Is the project framework sufficiently described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes, although we note that Colombia continues to report its inventory with a lag time of 4 years. Please comment on the possibility for Colombia to reduce this lag time for this or next BUR cycle, considering the requirement of the MPGs under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement to report with a 2-year cycle.

4/7/2020: This issue is still being assessed and effort being carried out to cut the time lag including with CBIT support. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

3/31/2020:

The country has set a conservative goal in line with the current guidelines for the preparation of BUR by non-Annex I parties. The possibility to submit the third biennial update report with GHG information until 2017 (or 2018) is being considered in views of the CBIT project support and further consolidation of the BUR team. The option to reduce the lag under this BUR cycle will depend directly on the availability of data, especially from the land use sector. For other sectors, the information can be managed and is expected to be available.

Stakeholders.

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Gender equality and women's empowerment.

Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Cost Effectiveness.

Is the project cost effective?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Please comment on the plans for utilizing the GEF resources to complete all the work necessary in less than a year (in order to submit by December 2020) while also requiring another year for implementation. How will resources be used in 2021?

4/9/2020: This still does not explain ending the project in 2022 after submission at the end of 2020--it seems too extended considering the quickness with which the report will be produced. Please consider reducing this timeframe. Please also note that project duration needs to match the time between implementation start date and completion date. Please fix accordingly.

4/21/2020: Dates and implementation time have been adjusted and now match. Comment cleared. Additional activities will be carried out for approximately a year after expected submission, including dissemination and supporting the ICA process. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

4/20/2020:

Project's Expected completion date is revised to December 2021. The project duration is defined based on the previous experience with the implementation of BUR projects in Colombia and globally. Single BUR projects get operationally closed approximately 1 year of the BUR submission to the UNFCCC, after completion of remaining activities related to the dissemination of results, ICA process, M&E requirements and administrative closure.

The Third BUR is planned to be submitted by Dec 2020, with ICA process being supported and taking place within 6 months of the BUR submission to the UNFCCC. The technical analysis report of the team of technical experts is thus expected to be finalized in Q3-Q4 2021. Furthermore, in line with the M&E requirements and in parallel with the finalization of the ICA process, the project is expected to prepare the End of project report summarizing lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved laying out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the project's results; and get operationally closed within 3 months of its completion, by Dec 2021.

Note: Although the government will be working intensively to submit the Third BUR by Dec 2020, there is a possibility and a risk, due to the current COVID-19 situation, that the BUR would be delayed to Q1-Q2 2021.

3/31/2020:

The remaining resources and time after the submission to the UNFCCC are expected to be used: (a) in national dissemination of the report at the national and local level, as a key guide to decision making at both levels supporting formulation and implementation of projects and public policies; (b) to prepare and support ICA process for the third BUR; (c) to compile the end of project report with summary of lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved laying out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the project's results; and (d) to finalize operational and financial closure of the project.

Additionally, the period of time following the delivery of the report would be an opportunity for the country to also update its subnational GHG inventories, for the years 2015 and 2016 should the remaining fund allow it.

Cost Ranges

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: No deviation in the cost range.

Agency Response

Part III. Endorsement/ Approval by OFP

Country endorsement

Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Yes, the OFP Mr. David Felipe Olarte has endorsed the enabling activity. However, the "Signed Date" on the portal is listed as May 13, 2020, while the letter says it was signed on May 13, 2019. Please change on the portal.

4/7/2020: Date has been corrected. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

3/31/2020:

Corrected in the portal

Response to Comments

Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)

GEF Secretariat Comment

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

STAP Comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**Agency Response**

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**Agency Response**

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is CEO Endorsement/approval recommended?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

2/21/2020: Not yet. Please address minor comments above.

4/9/2020: Please address remaining comment. Please also fix the Rio Marker of Adaptation to 0 (as this is a BUR not NC).

4/21/2020: Remaining comment has been addressed. PM recommends CEO Approval.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

Colombia presented the Third National Communication (TNC) on Climate Change in September 2017, which provided information on Colombia's national circumstances, mitigation measures and the national GHG inventory based on the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for the years 2005, 2008 and 2012; as well as a complete analysis of the country's vulnerability to climate change and the progress the country has made regarding adaptation to climate change. Colombia has submitted two Biennial Update Reports – BUR to the UNFCCC. The first BUR was presented in December 2015 and provided information on the National GHG Inventory for the years 2010 and 2012. The second BUR was presented in December 2018 with updated information presented in the first BUR and included the national GHG inventory for the years 2013 and 2014, as well as an update of the 1990 to 2012 series of the inventory presented in the TNC.

The EA consists of the following components:

Component 1. Information on (a) national circumstances, institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of the National reports on a continuous basis, (b) progress, needs, opportunities and challenges regarding financing, technology transfers and capacity building on climate change, including information on international support received updated.

Component 2. Inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol updated.

Component 3. Information on Mitigation Actions and progress in the country's Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system reported.

Component 4. Publication and submission of the Third Biennial Update Report by December 2020, Knowledge Management, Monitoring and Evaluation.

Based on the results of the needs identified in the second ICA cycle, as stated above, the Colombian's BUR-3 will continue the work related to the update of National GHG inventory improvement plans. The CBIT project will be supporting the design and implementation of an information technology platform for managing and calculating the national GHG inventory. Likewise, for the first time, the country will be able to report Tier 2 and Tier 3 emissions estimates for prioritized categories in the Energy Sector to the UNFCCC. In general, through both projects and their synergies, Colombia will strengthen the capacity of national entities to consolidate and manage the information needed for the calculation of the GHG inventory.